

THE EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL**Minutes****February 3, 2004**

The Edgefield County Council met at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, February 3, 2004, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter St., Edgefield, for its regular monthly meeting.

Members present

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman
Norman Dorn, Councilman
Joel D. Hudson, Councilman
B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

Others present

Wayne Adams, Administrator
John F. Byrd, Jr., County Attorney
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

Chairman Kneece called the meeting to order and Councilman Hudson gave the invocation, after which the pledge of allegiance was recited.

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Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to approve the January 6, 2004, Minutes of the Edgefield County Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Chairman Kneece brought to council members' attention report number 4, a letter from Gen. Larry R. Ellis, US Army, thanking the county for the services (active military duty) of one of its employees (Shirley Key).

No ordinances or resolutions.**New Business**

Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to accept into the county maintenance system Greenfield Court and Green Springs Court. Motion carried unanimously.

The following financing proposals were presented to council for consideration for the \$196,400 General Obligation Bond for the Detention Center pursuant to Ordinance No. 03-04-241 passed by council on December 2, 2004:

Bank of America.....4.39%
BB&T.....3.85%

Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright, to accept

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BB&T's proposal of 3.85%. Motion carried unanimously.

Bids received for the purchase of a backhoe are as follows:

Briggs Equipment	\$57,459.00
Blanchard Equipment	\$54,195.00
Interstate Equipment Co.	\$53,195.00
Mitchell Distributing	\$50,281.00
Fairfield Tractor	\$48,505.12

Mr. Adams stated that the equipment of the low bidder had been examined and found to be in accordance with the specifications. This particular model is a New Holland and staff recommends to council the low bid presented by Fairfield Tractor. Motion made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Bright, to accept the low bid of Fairfield Tractor in the amount of \$48,505.12. Motion carried unanimously.

The sale of timber at the Old Chain Gang Camp and at the property behind Manor House on Highway 25 North was the next agenda item. Following are the bids according to Gillespie and Associates Land and Timber management, Inc.

Product	Weyerhaeuser	Log Creek	Canal Wood
Poles	\$54/ton	\$50/ton	-----
Cameron	-----	\$51/ton	-----
Plylogs	\$46/ton	\$43/ton	\$41/ton
Chip-n-Saw	\$16/ton	\$20/ton	\$19/ton
PinePulp	\$ 5/ton	\$ 5.50/ton	

Council would like clearer figures- an estimated amount on each of the bidders. Councilman Kitchens made a motion to have Gillespie & Associates give an estimate of each bid. Motion seconded by Councilman Dorn. Motion carried unanimously.

The funding request received by council from the Golden Harvest Food Bank is a request for FY 2004-05.

Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to postpone the funding request from MEG's House. Motion carried. MEG's House was funded \$5,000 last year from the Victims' Bill of Rights. That particular budget last year had \$157,000 but at this time it has expenditures of \$140,000 for the year; income of \$140,972. In December, with six months remaining in the fiscal year it had just \$48,589. Should not take any funds from this account at this time – wait and see if funds meet the county's revenue projections to service our Victims' budget before we decide whether there is any extra. Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to postpone MEG's House request at this time. Motion carried unanimously.

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Chairman Kneece made the motion to contribute \$50.00 for a one-half page ad to be placed in the Peach Blossom Festival brochure. Motion seconded by Councilman Bright. Motion carried unanimously.

Council received a request from the Edgefield County Fire Board asking for a \$30,000 loan from the county's administrative fee on the behalf of the Westside Fire Department to purchase a brush truck. Payments of \$6,000 per year for five years. The administrator explained that the minimum distribution to any fire department is \$21,000.00. The county retains about 10% of collection for administrative fee. There is a balance of approximately \$59,000 in the account now. The only outstanding loan at the present is to Northside Fire Department (balance of \$4,000) which will be paid in a couple of months. Anything beyond a five year term is on a simple interest basis – anything less than five years there is no interest. Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Hudson to approve a \$30,000 interest free loan to Westside Volunteer Fire Department to purchase a brush truck. Motion carried unanimously.

Appointments of two individuals to the Planning Commission Board were brought before council at this time. Councilman Bright recommended the appointment of Tracey Freeman, 1581 Edgefield Road, North Augusta, SC 29860, to fill the unexpired term of Wendell Beaubian. Chairman Kneece recommended the appointment of Norman Stephenson, 30 Typee Place, Johnston, SC 29832, to fill the unexpired term of Joe Edwards. Motion made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to appoint Mr. Tracey Freeman and Mr. Norman Stephenson to the Planning Commission Board. Motion carried unanimously.

No Old Business.

Councilman Dorn spoke on behalf of some citizens attending the council meeting concerning the waterline on 283 (Walker Road). There is area off Walker Road where the waterline would not be installed and the citizens are interested in having the line extended to their homes since the contractor will already be in the area. Mr. Adams stated that Ruth LaForge (Upper Savannah COG) had already surveyed that area with Richard Shaffer (Water & Sewer Authority Administrator). That is an area they are looking at. Depends on what happens with the expense of the rest of what is being done on Hwy. 283. Pipe is out along the right-of-way but Mr. Shaffer is not sure of how much money will be left after the main part is done. There may be some money left in the current grant. There is another cycle coming up for which council has to express some support for another CDBG project – maybe apply then.

No Executive Session.

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No Guests.

Claims approved as follows:

- A. PAYROLL: 12/22/03 thru 01/04/04
- Regular.....\$119,186.52
- PAYROLL: 01/05/04 thru 01/18/04
- Regular.....\$110,934.24
- PAYROLL: 01/19/04 thru 02/01/04
- Regular.....\$113,892.48
- B. General Operating.....\$508,257.74

There being no further business, Councilman Dorn made the motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by councilman Bright. The next regular meeting of Council is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, 2004.

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

Norman Dorn, Councilman

Joel D. Hudson, Councilman

B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

ATTEST

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council